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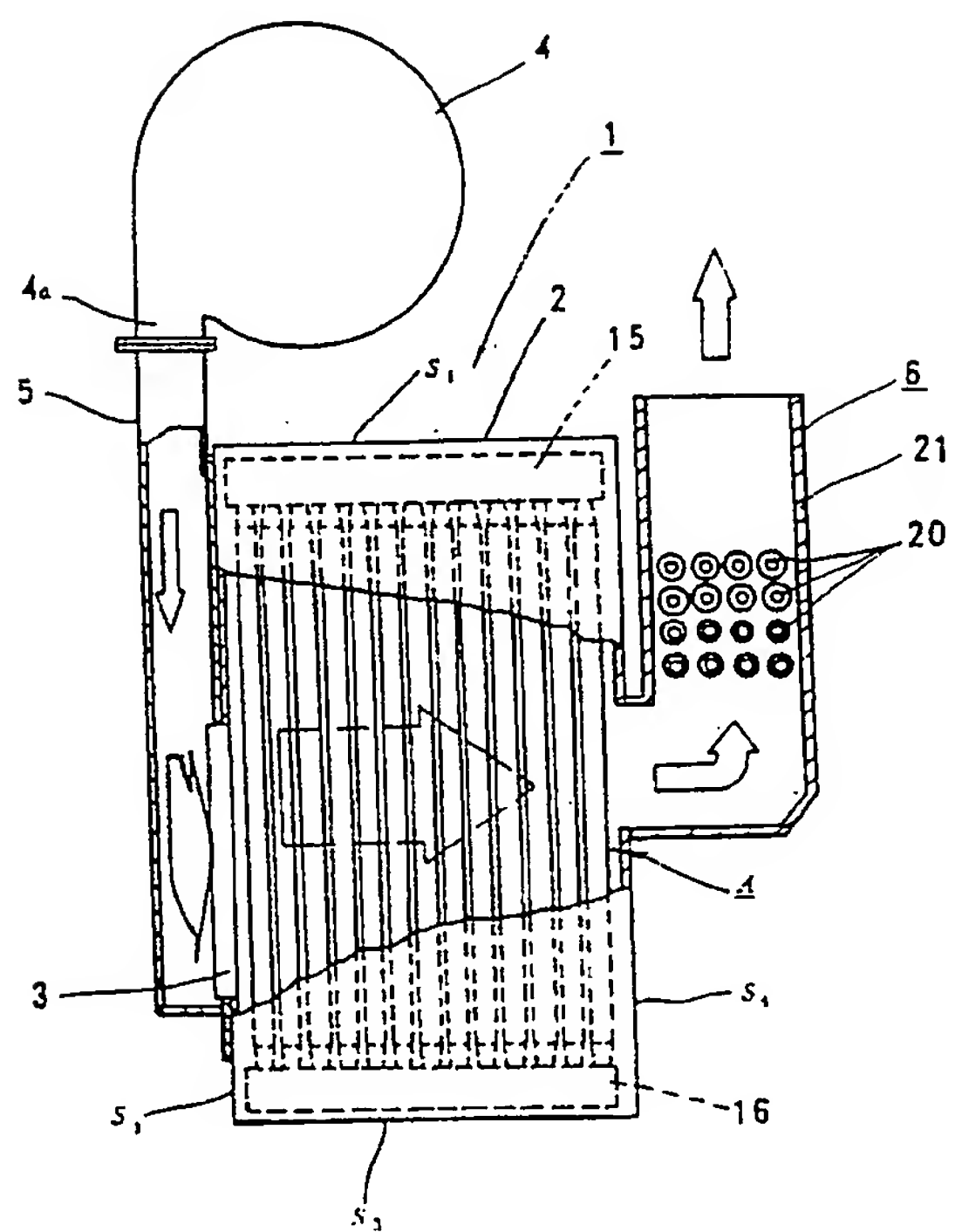
54 **SQUARE MULTI-PIPE ONCE-THROUGH BOILER.**

57 A square multi-pipe once-through boiler in accordance with the present invention has a structure wherein a feed path of air for combustion, a combustion space and an exhaust gas path passing through a flue are formed on substantially the same plane. A burner duct (5) and a blower (4) are disposed in an arbitrary zone of side wall portions (S1 ~ S4) defining the width of a boiler main body (1) of the boiler described above so as to make compact the boiler as a whole. The boiler main body (1) is equipped with a water pipe assembly (A) consisting of a plurality of water pipes (10) disposed substantially in longitudinal lines and is constituted so that the com-

bustion gas flows in the crossing direction with respect to these water pipes (10). A burner (3) is disposed sideways of the water pipe assembly (A) in the proximity of the water pipe (10) of the first lines (1<sub>1</sub>) of the water pipe assembly (A) so that even when the fuel supplied from the burner (3) is ignited in the space between the water pipe (10) of the first line (1<sub>1</sub>) and the burner (3), combustion is not complete in this space and almost all of its unburnt gas are burnt completely in the flowing process between the water pipes. Such a combustion system is also effective for reducing NO<sub>x</sub> and CO.

**EP 0 450 072 A1**

FIG1



## [Technical Field]

This invention relates to a quadrangular type multi-tube constructed so that combustion gases flow crosswise of a group of water tubes.

## [Background Art]

Generally, it has been considered desirable from the standpoint of increased heat exchange efficiency between combustion gas and water tubes that the water tube assembly used in small-sized multi-tube once-through boilers comprise water tubes annularly disposed to define a combustion chamber therein. Therefore, a multi-tube once-through boiler using this type of water tube assembly has a substantially cylindrically constructed boiler body, with ancillary parts, such as a blower and a water feed pump, disposed around said boiler body.

Another feature of said type of boiler is that the burner is disposed above or below the water tube assembly so that the fuel from the burner burns substantially completely in the interior of the water tube assembly, producing high temperature combustion gases which flow through clearances between the water tubes and into flues. In a boiler using the water tube construction described above, since the ancillary parts are disposed around the boiler body, the boiler installation area is several times as large as that occupied by the boiler body.

Thus, the boiler employing the burner-based combustion system described above together with the cylindrical water tube construction tends to occupy a relatively large installation space depending upon the boiler installation site and layout condition. For this reason, some multi-tube once-through boilers based on the so-called quadrangular type water tube construction have recently been proposed. In these known quadrangular type multi-tube once-through boilers, the water tube assembly is simply constructed to define an oval or rectangle which provides a relatively large space serving as a combustion chamber; because of this construction, the reduction of the boiler body size has been limited, making it difficult to attain a sufficient saving of installation space.

In recent years, attention has been paid to environmental pollution problems, calling for further reduction of harmful combustion exhaust gases, particularly  $\text{NO}_x$  and CO gases, from boilers.

Approaches to reduction of such harmful combustion exhaust gases include a method in which exhaust gases are re-circulated, another in which water is sprayed over premixed gas, a so-called two-stage combustion method, and a method in which the combustion gas temperature is adjusted by a cold body adjacent the burner and then CO is

oxidized in an adiabatic space extending to the heat exchanger. Even if these approaches to reduction are applied to conventional boilers, the problems of increasing boiler size and complicated boiler construction still remain, leading to an increase in cost.

This invention is a novel boiler unit overcoming the problems described above, intended to provide a novel small-sized efficient quadrangular type multi-tube once-through boiler designed so that the boiler body and ancillary parts, such as a blower, can be installed in a limited rectangular parallelepiped space.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a novel combustion system in which it has a minimum space of the combustion chamber for constituting such a boiler of small size and high efficiency and substantial combustion of the fuel is carried out in the space between the water tubes.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a novel package type boiler which is equipped by a plurality of the above-mentioned boilers of small size and high efficiency as a preferred embodiment of the present invention.

Other objectives and examples of application of the present invention will be clarified by the following illustrations

## [Disclosure of Invention]

To achieve the object described above, a quadrangular type multi-tube once-through boiler according to the present invention has an arrangement in which a feed path for combustion air, a combustion chamber, and an exhaust gas channel passing through a flue are defined in substantially the same plane, with a burner duct and a blower each installed in any desired regions in outer wall portions defining the width of said boiler body.

Said boiler body is provided with an assembly of a plurality of substantially vertically disposed water tubes, with combustion gas flowing crosswise of said water tubes. A burner is disposed in close adjacency to the first row of water tubes in the water tube assembly, whereby even if fuel from the burner is ignited in a space between said first row of water tubes and said burner, actual combustion does not proceed to completion therebetween but the most of the unburnt gas burns completely while it flows through water tube clearances.

## [Brief Description of Drawings]

Fig. 1 is a side view, partly broken away, showing an air-combustion gas channel in a quadrangular type multi-tube once-through boiler according to this invention;

Fig. 2 is a schematic cross sectional view show-

ing the disposition of water tubes included in a water tube assembly in said quadrangular type multi-tube once-through boiler;

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view showing part of an economizer used in said quadrangular type multi-tube once-through boiler;

Fig. 4 is a side view, partly broken away, of the economizer of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a perspective view showing the entire construction of said quadrangular type multi-tube once-through boiler;

Fig. 6 through Fig. 8 are schematic side views showing another embodiment of a quadrangular type multi-tube once-through boiler according to this invention;

Fig. 9 through Fig. 12 are schematic cross sectional views showing other examples of the construction of the water tube assembly in the quadrangular type multi-tube once-through boiler;

Fig. 13 is a schematic side view showing an embodiment of package boiler utilizing the present invention; and

Fig. 14 is a schematic side view showing a modification of the boiler of Fig. 13.

#### [Best Mode for Carrying Out the Invention]

In Fig. 1 through Fig. 5, an embodiment of a quadrangular type multi-tube once-through boiler according to the present invention is shown.

In the figures, the numeral 5 denotes a burner duct by which a combustion burner 3 and a blower 4 are connected together; 6 denotes an economizer; and  $S_1$ ,  $S_2$ ,  $S_3$  and  $S_4$  denote outer plates or lateral wall portions defining the width of said water tube assembly (A); 2 denotes an casing for boiler body 1 defined by said other plates.

The water tube assembly (A) is composed of a plurality of vertically extending substantially parallel water tubes 10. Such assembly (A) is composed of vertically extending quadrangular construction, with combustion gases flowing crosswise of said group of water tubes. In the illustration example, the water tubes 10 disposed on opposite outer sides are connected together by fin members 11, forming water tube walls 12 which are substantially parallel and positioned on opposite sides of the water tube assembly (A).

The intermediate water tubes 10 between the water tube walls 12, 12 on opposite sides are arranged in a number of rows spaced lengthwise (longitudinally) of the water tube walls, each row consisting of two tubes disposed widthwise of the water tube assembly. These water tube rows  $l_1$ ,  $l_2$ ,  $l_3$  and so on and the water tubes 10 forming the water tube walls 12 differ in pitch from each other and arranged in zigzag.

In this embodiment, the clearance between adjacent water tubes 10 is nearly equal to or less than the diameter (d) of the water tubes 10. More particularly, the clearance between adjacent water tubes 10 in each of the water tube rows  $l_1$ ,  $l_2$ ,  $l_3$ , and so on, and the clearance between a water tube 10 in one of two adjacent water tube rows and an adjacent water tube 10 in the other water tube row, and the clearance between a water tube 10 in each of the water tube walls 12 on the opposite sides and a water tube 10 in each of the water tube rows  $l_1$ ,  $l_2$ ,  $l_3$  and so on are nearly equal to or less than the diameter (d) of the water tubes 10. In addition, these clearances may be equal to or different from each other provided that the aforesaid condition is met.

Further, the water tubes 10 are connected together at their upper and lower ends by upper and lower headers 15 and 16, respectively, thereby forming a narrow, substantially rectangular water tube assembly (A).

A burner 3 suitable for this embodiment is a premixing type burner, such as a surface combustion burner, positioned at one longitudinal end of the water tube assembly (A).

The clearance between this combustion burner 3 and the first water tube row  $l_1$  positioned close thereto is nearly equal to or less than a predetermined distance which is 3 times as large as the diameter (d) of the water tubes 10. The water tube in each of the water tube walls which is closet to the combustion burner 3 is positioned on the basis of said distance.

As for such combustion burner 3, a small-sized high load combustion burner is preferable since the water tube assembly (A) is narrow as described above and since the opening for attaching the burner is limited.

The blower 4 is of the centrifugal type, disposed above the lateral wall portion  $S_1$ . The delivery port 4a of this type of blower 4 is directed downward and disposed on the side of the boiler body 1 where the combustion burner 3 is installed, said delivery port 4a being connected to said combustion burner 3 by the burner duct 5 disposed on the wall portion  $S_2$ .

The burner duct 5 has a width which is nearly equal to or less than the width of water tube assembly (A) and is in the form of a quadrangular pillar, as shown, with a gas feed nozzle (not shown) disposed somewhere in said pillar, so that premixed gas flows from the opening in the outlet side to the burner 3.

The economizer 6, comprises a substantially L-shaped economizer body 21 and horizontally extending finned heat transfer tubes 20 disposed therein in lattice form. The opposite ends of these finned heat transfer tubes 20 extend through the



lateral surfaces of the economizer body 21 and open. Of the openings which open to one lateral surface, the four openings on the uppermost row are kept communicating with each other by headers 22a and 22b, respectively, disposed on the lateral surfaces of the economizer body 21, while the eight tubes in the two middle rows are kept communicating with each other by a similar header 22c. The eight openings in the two upper rows and the eight openings in the two lower rows which open to the other lateral surface are kept communicating with each other by headers 22d and 22e, respectively. Therefore, a vertically extending zig-zag channel is defined by the finned heat transfer tubes 20 and the headers 22a through 22e. Heat transfer fluid (water) enters and leaves the economizer through inlet and outlet tubes 23 and 24, respectively.

The economizer 6 of this arrangement is disposed on the side opposed to the combustion burner 3, with the water tube assembly (A) interposed therebetween, in such a manner that the heat transfer tubes 20 extend crosswise of the water tubes 10 of the water tube assembly (A) of the boiler, the width of said economizer being substantially equal to the width of said water tube assembly (A).

In the arrangement described above, combustion air flows downward from the blower 4 via the burner duct 5 and on its way it is mixed with combustible gas from the gas feed nozzle to provide premixed gas, which is then fed to the combustion burner 3.

Subsequently, the premixed gas flowing out of the combustion burner 3 is ignited in front of the combustion burner 3 to produce flames, traveling from left to right, as shown, through the clearances between the water tubes 10 of the water tube assembly (A), while completely burning. In the meantime, the combustion flames and combustion gases transfer heat to the water tubes 10.

When the combustion gases, leaving the water tube assembly (A), flow into the economizer 6, they flow upward in the latter while transferring heat to the heat transfer tubes 20. Since the water in the heat transfer tubes 20 of the economizer 6 communicates with the four heat transfer tubes 20 in the uppermost row and with the four heat transfer tubes 20 in the lowermost row through headers 22d, 22c and 22e, the water in the transfer tubes 20 in the uppermost row is at a relatively low temperature, so that can be recovered even by the temperature-decreased combustion gases now flowing in the downstream region of the economizer 6. The combustion gases are then discharged through an unillustrated exhaust drum.

During combustion of gas by the burner 3, since the clearance between the first water tube

row 1<sub>1</sub> close thereto and the water tube wall 12 is small, as described above, the flames from the combustion burner 3 extend long in the direction of the length of the water tube assembly as they travel through the clearances between the water tubes in the water tube rows 1<sub>1</sub>, 1<sub>2</sub>, 1<sub>3</sub>, and so on; thus, burning reaction takes place also in these clearances. As a result, the flames from the combustion burner 3 come in contact first with the first water tube row 1<sub>1</sub>, then with the second row 1<sub>2</sub>, then with the third row 1<sub>3</sub>, and so on, while they also come in contact with the water tube walls for successive heat transfer; thus, the flame temperature can be decreased to, e.g., 1200 °C-1300 °C and hence the formation of thermal NO<sub>x</sub> can be suppressed.

Since the combustion flames swirl in the clearances between the water tubes 10 because of the presence of the water tubes 10, flame stability is improved and complete combustion is ensured as unburnt gas is rapidly drawn into the flame flow; particularly, CO is oxidized into CO<sub>2</sub>. Also, the combustion gases, resulting from burning reaction, pass longitudinally of the water tube assembly (A) while coming in contact with the water tube rows and water tube walls and are kept within a relatively low temperature range. This also suppresses thermal dissociation of CO<sub>2</sub> into CO.

According to the arrangement described above, it follows that the channels for combustion air and combustion gases are formed in the space of a rectangular parallelepiped of predetermined width. As a result, the width of the entire boiler can be decreased to a value which allows formation of the channels; thus, the boiler width can be greatly decreased as compared with multi-tube once-through boilers having a conventional combustion chamber.

Furthermore, if the water tube assembly described above is employed, flames from the burner 3 and the channel for combustion gases can be made linearly relatively long in length and hence combustion flames and combustion gases can be allowed to stay in the water tube assembly at relatively low temperatures, saving the need for forming a separate combustion chamber. This accounts for the compactness of the water tube assembly, and the function of swirling flames leads to a decrease in harmful exhaust.

For example, a comparison was made between a conventional water tube assembly and the present inventive water tube assembly as to the amount of harmful exhaust production under the condition that they have the same outer size and operate under the same combustion load, it was found that the present invention decreases NO<sub>x</sub> from 70-80 ppm to 40 ppm and CO to as low as not more than 50 ppm. These NO<sub>x</sub> and CO values

are equal to those for a boiler equipped with a gas circulator when the circulation factor is 10%. According to the boiler of the present invention, however, such harmful-exhaust decreasing function can be attained not by circulating combustion gases but by passing them in one direction only. Furthermore, there is no need for a complicated piping for exhaust gas circulation, so that the construction is very simple.

In a quadrangular type multi-tube once-through boiler according to the invention, the disposition and configurations of the blower 4 and burner duct 5 are not limited to the embodiment described above, but they may be changed as shown in Figs. 6 through 8.

Further, in the quadrangular type multi-tube once-through boiler according to the invention, the water tube assembly is not limited to one having the construction described above, but they may have a construction as shown in Figs. 9 through 12.

The water tube assembly shown in Fig. 9 is a modification of the one shown in Fig. 2. In Fig. 9, two or more groups of water tubes different in heat transfer surface area are arranged in the order of increasing heat transfer surface area as seen from combustion gas upstream side to downstream side. In this example, a group of smooth water tubes 10, a group of laterally-finned water tubes 10' and a group of aerofinned water tubes 10'' are arranged in the order mentioned as seen from combustion gas upstream side to downstream side.

In Fig. 10, the water tube walls 12 extend substantially to the middle of the water tube assembly, and the downstream side is narrowed. Between the water tube walls 12, water tubes 10 in the form of straight tubes are disposed in series, while in the region downstream of said water tube walls 12, two rows of aerofinned water tubes 10'' are disposed between heat insulating walls 18.

In Fig. 11, the water tube rows 1<sub>1</sub>, 1<sub>2</sub> and 1<sub>3</sub>, each consisting of two water tubes 10, are disposed immediately in front of the combustion burner 3, said water tube row 1<sub>3</sub> being followed by three aerofinned water tubes 10'' in a row, and partition walls 19 are disposed on opposite sides of said aerofinned water tubes 10''. The positional relation of the water tubes 10 and 10'' and combustion burner 3 is the same as described above.

In Fig. 12, the number of water tube rows is 7 and the number of aerofinned water tubes is 6.

The quadrangular type multi-tube once-through boiler of the present invention develops its merits to a greater extent when applied to examples (package type) shown in Fig. 13 and 14.

In these figures, (X) denotes a boiler unit; (Y) denotes control box; 30 denotes a cabinet structure; 32 denotes front sealing panels; 33 denotes lateral sealing panels.

The boiler unit (X) comprises a single boiler body 42 covered with a casing 41 and placed on a bed 40 and ancillary parts, such as a burner blower 43 and an economizer 44, attached to said body or bed 40.

The cabinet structure 30, in the embodiment shown in Fig. 13, comprises a required number or a plurality of substantially vertically and horizontally extending connecting members 47a and 47b, thereby defining three receiving compartments 49. The members defining these receiving compartments are adapted to be separated and connected so as to make it possible to increase or decrease the number of receiving partitions 49.

In each of the receiving compartments 49 of the cabinet structure 30, rails and rollers can be installed on the connecting members 47b' which form the bottom of a frame 47. For example, as shown in Fig. 14, if the bed 40 of the boiler unit (X) is placed on a pair of rails 50 installed in each receiving compartment 49, the movement of the boiler unit (X) for carrying in and out is facilitated.

#### [Industrial Applicability]

As illustrated above, in the quadrangular type multi-tube once-through boiler according to the present invention, the air feed path from the blower to the boiler body and the exhaust gas channel from the boiler body passing through the flue can be formed substantially on the same plane along the flowing path of combustion gas in the boiler body and the flowing path of the combustion air-combustion gas can be set in a cubic volume of a specified width to largely decrease the width and space of the whole boiler.

Furthermore, the quadrangular type multi-tube once-through boiler according to the present invention has a decreased width as mentioned above and each accessories are arranged to the longitudinal or upper direction of the boiler body and thus the total shape is flat vertical form. This merit can be highly exerted in the multi-boiler system widely used recently.

Furthermore, the boiler body of the quadrangular type multi-tube once-through boiler according to the present invention can control the temperatures of combustion flame in the space between the water tubes and combustion gas within a relatively low range by each water tubes and hence special conventional equipments and structures for preventing hazardous exhaust gas are not required to make the structure simple and to lower the cost.

Furthermore, the quadrangular type multi-tube once-through boiler according to the present invention, by equipping an economizer in which the heat transfer tubes are arranged crosswise to the water tube direction of said boiler body on the part over

the side wall portion facing to the burner duct, increase in the width is substantially nothing and the installing area is not so highly increased by equipping the economizer in such a way as seen in the conventional boiler system.

### Claims

1. A multi-tube once-through boiler having a quadrangular type boiler body, which comprises a feed path for combustion air, a combustion chamber and an exhaust gas channel passing through a flue,  
     said feed path, said combustion chamber and said exhaust gas channel being aligned in substantially the same plane along the lateral walls  $s_1$ ,  $s_2$ ,  $s_3$  and  $s_4$  of said boiler body 1,  
     a burner duct 5 forming part of said feed path and a blower 4 for use with the boiler being disposed in any desired regions of said lateral wall portions  $s_1$ ,  $s_2$ ,  $s_3$ , and  $s_4$  defining the width of said boiler body 1,  
     said boiler body 1 being composed of a water tube assembly (A) of a plurality of water tubes 10 so that combustion gas flows crosswise of said water tubes 10,  
     a burner 3 being disposed in close adjacency to the first water tube row  $l_1$  in said water tube assembly (A).
2. A boiler as set forth in Claim 1, characterized by an economizer 6 disposed on the lateral wall portion 14 opposed to said burner duct 5, said economizer 6 comprising heat transfer tubes 20 disposed crosswise of the water tube rows ( $l_1$ ,  $l_2$  and so on) in said water tube assembly (A).
3. A boiler as set forth in Claim 1, characterized in that the clearance between the first water tube row  $l_1$  and the following other water tube rows ( $l_2$  and so on) and the clearance between right and left adjacent water tubes are substantially equal to or less than the water tube diameter (d).
4. A boiler as set forth in Claim 2 or 3, characterized in that two or more groups of water tubes different in heat transfer surface area are arranged in the order of increasing heat transfer surface area as seen from combustion gas upstream side to downstream side.
5. A multi-tube once-through boiler having a quadrangular type boiler body 42, comprising a boiler unit (X) in which said boiler body 42 is installed on a bed 40, together with boiler ancillary parts,

a frame 47 formed of a required number of substantially vertically or horizontally extending connecting members 47a, 47b defining a plurality of receiving compartments for said boiler unit,

a front sealing panel 32 for closing an opening in the front surface of each of said receiving compartments 49, and

a lateral sealing panel 33 for closing an opening in each lateral surface of the cabinet structure 30.

FIG 1

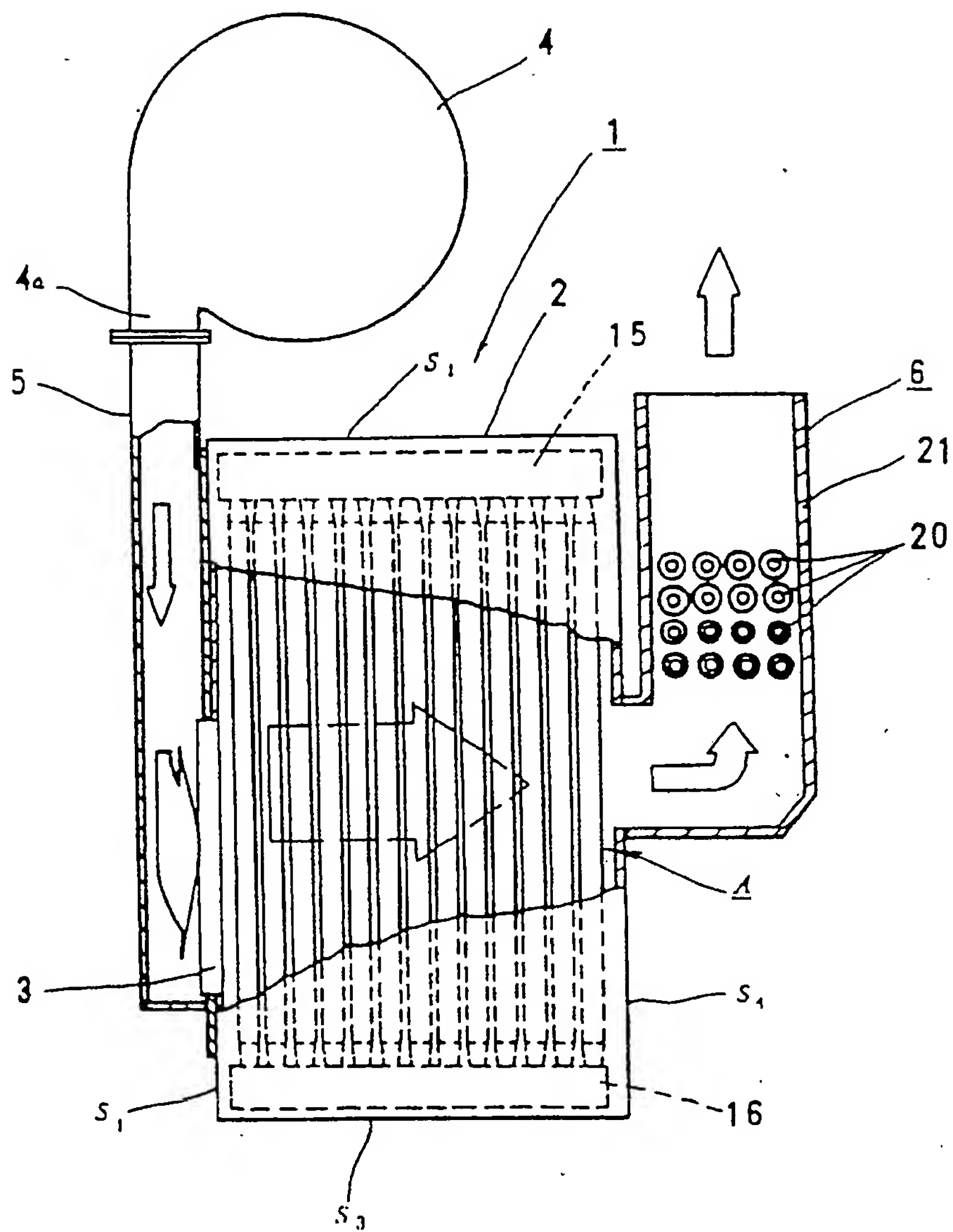




FIG 2

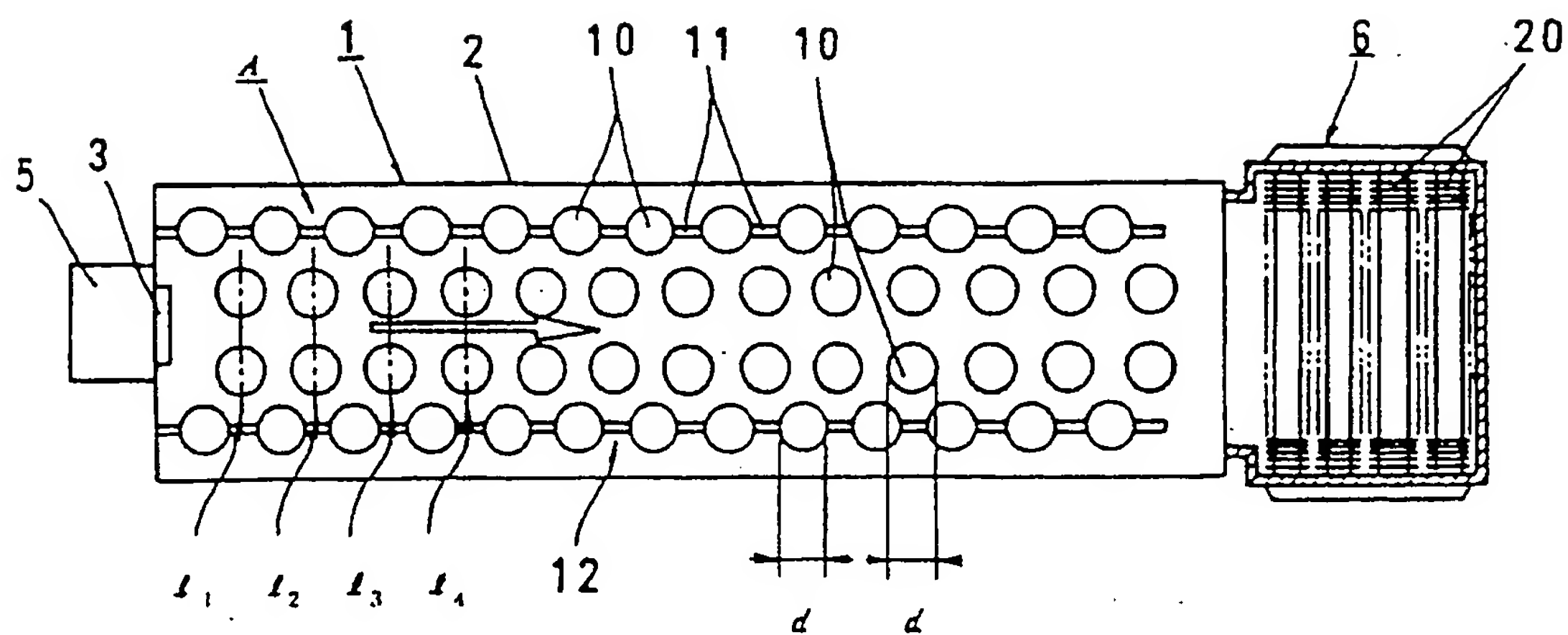


FIG 3

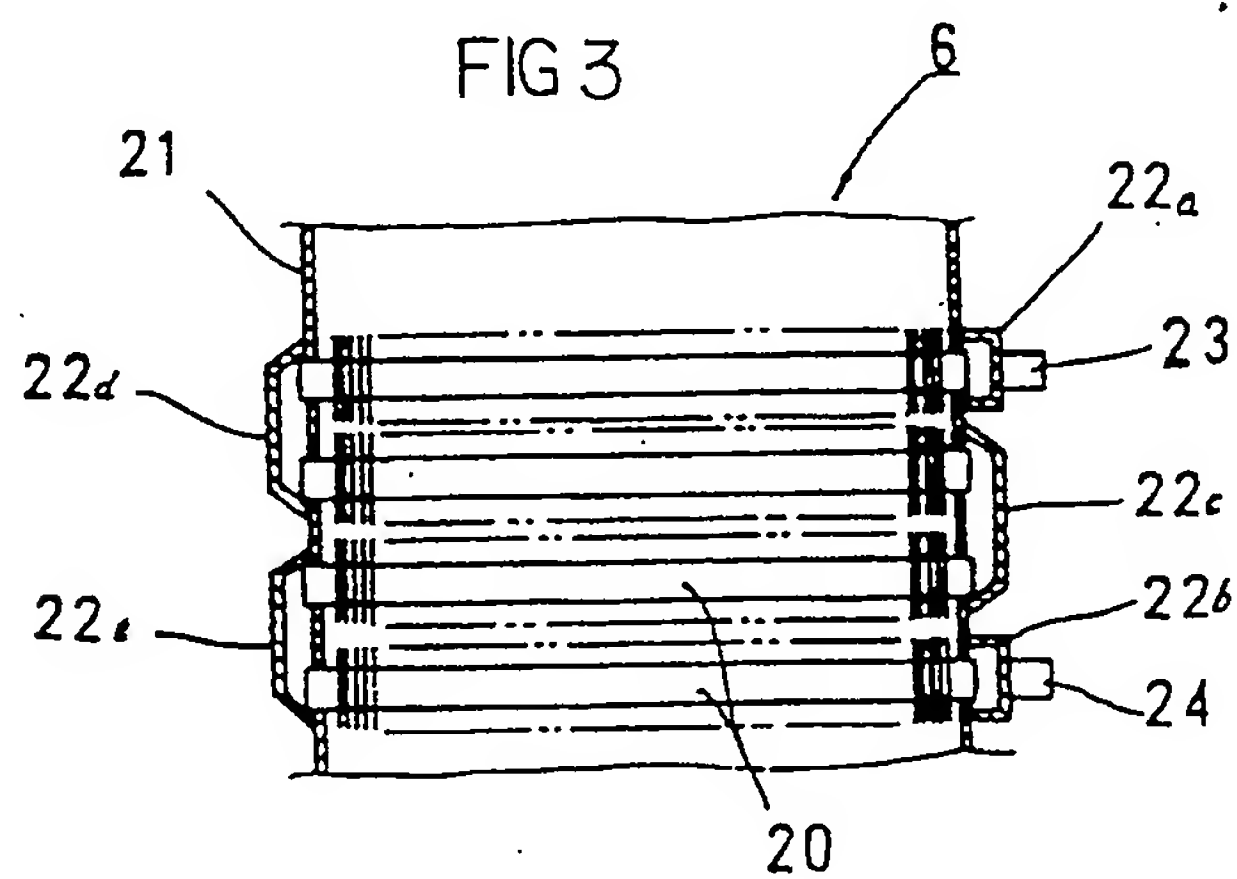


FIG 4

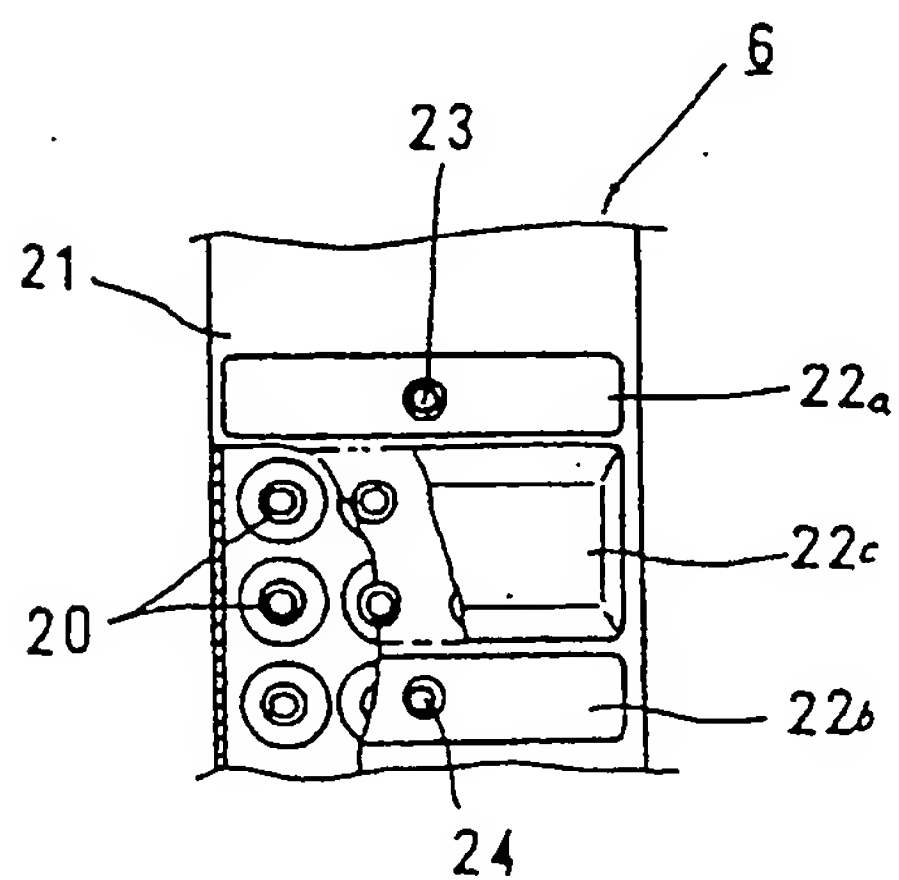


FIG 5

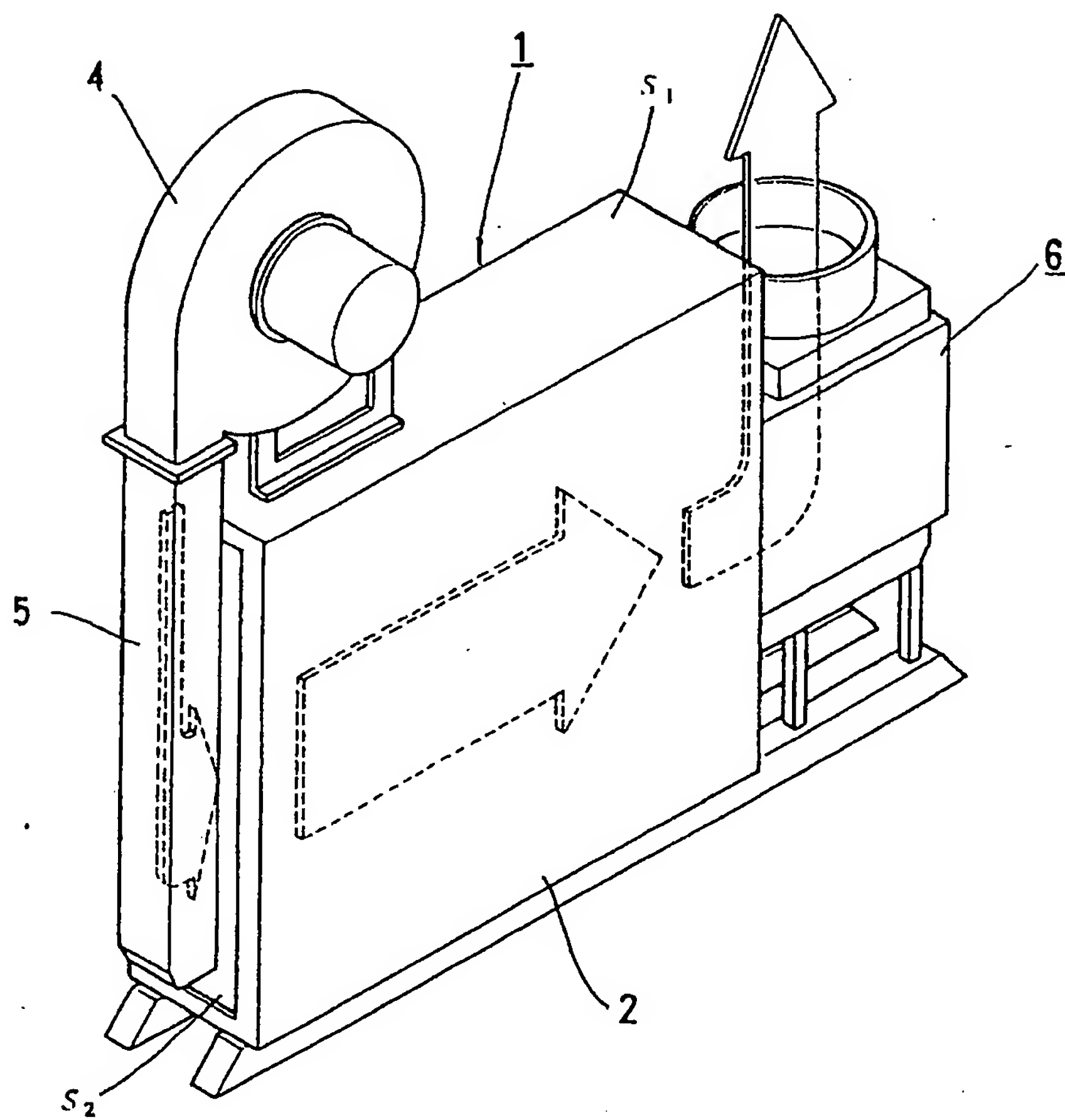


FIG 6

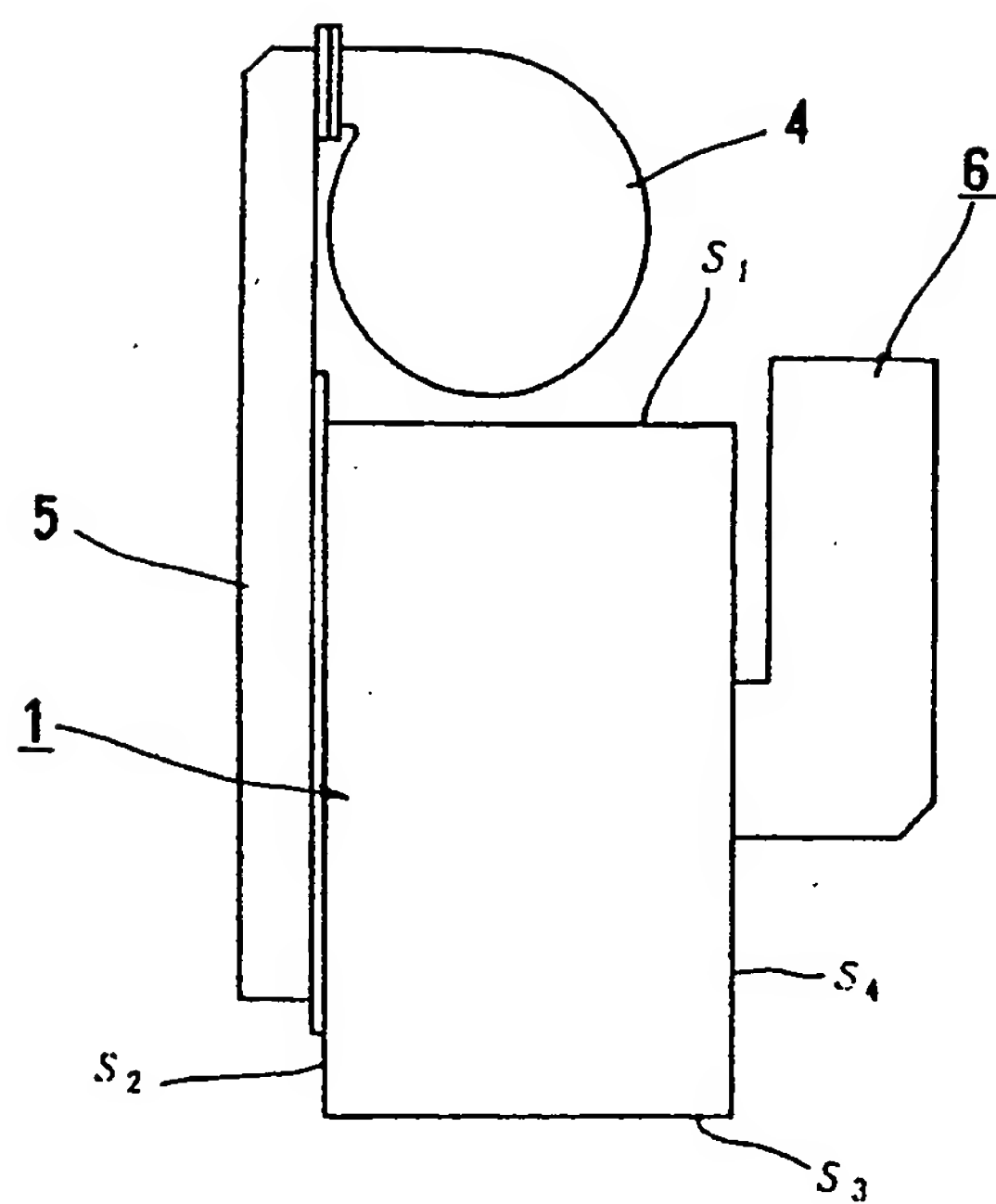


FIG 7

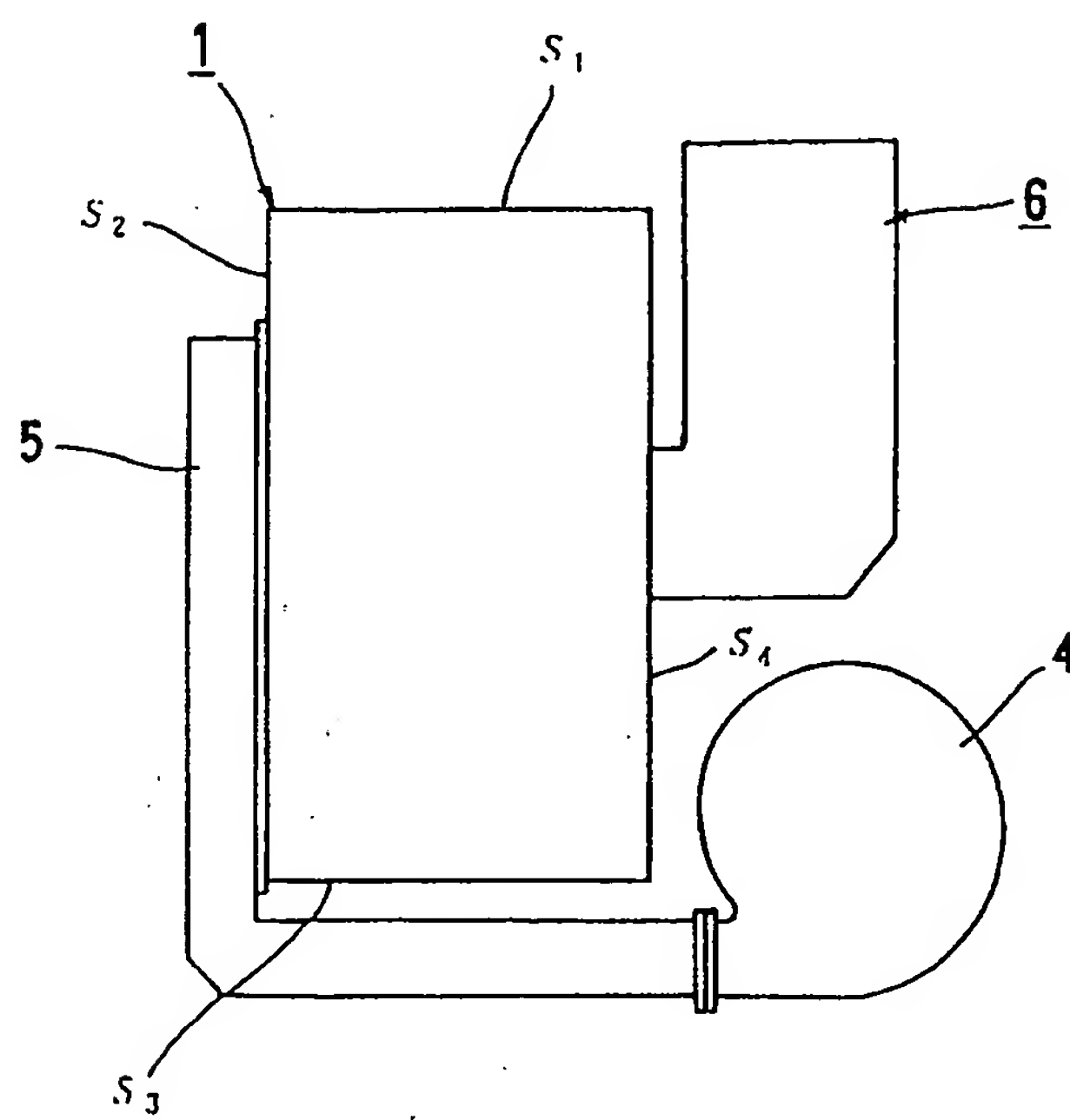


FIG 8

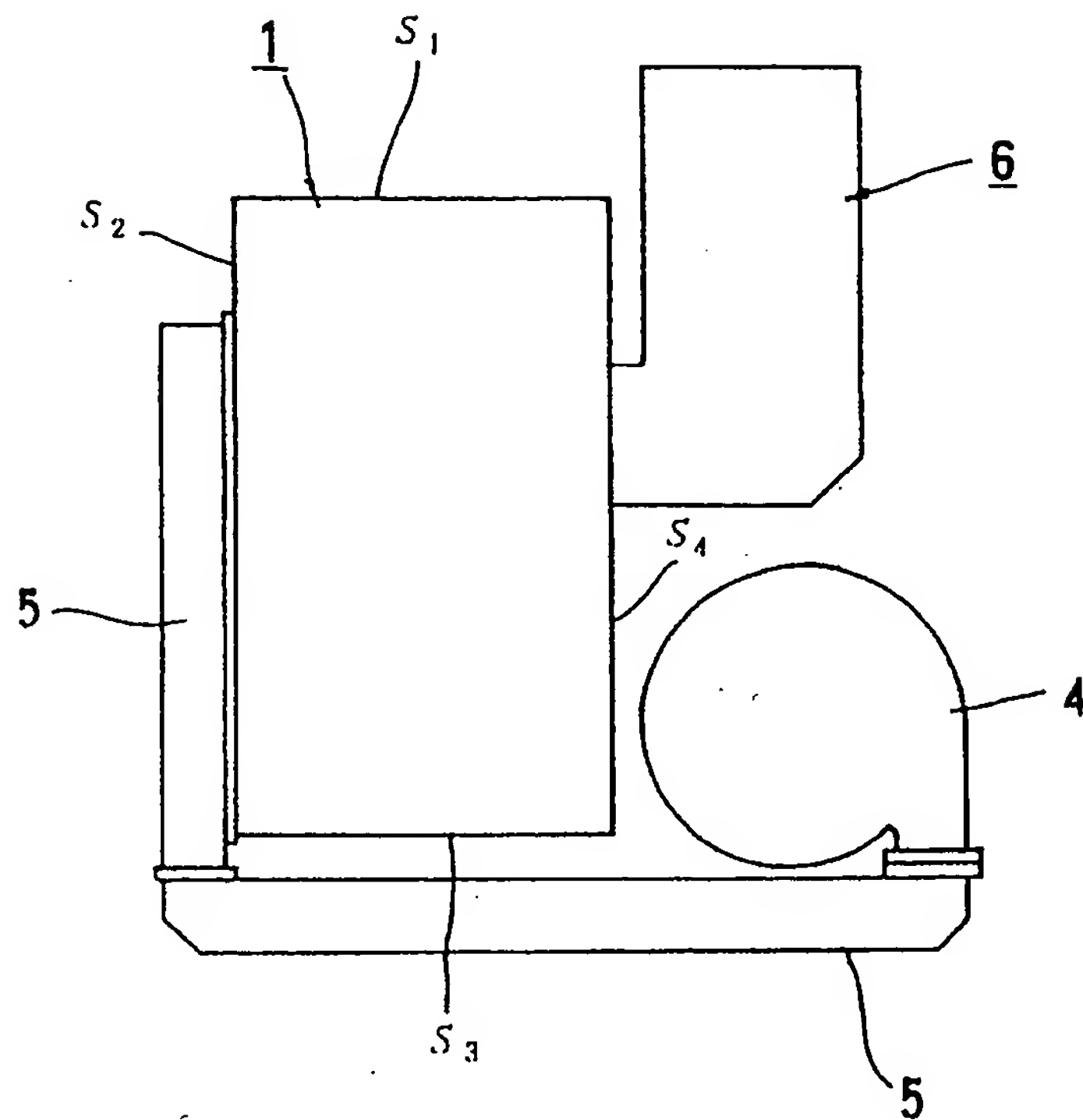
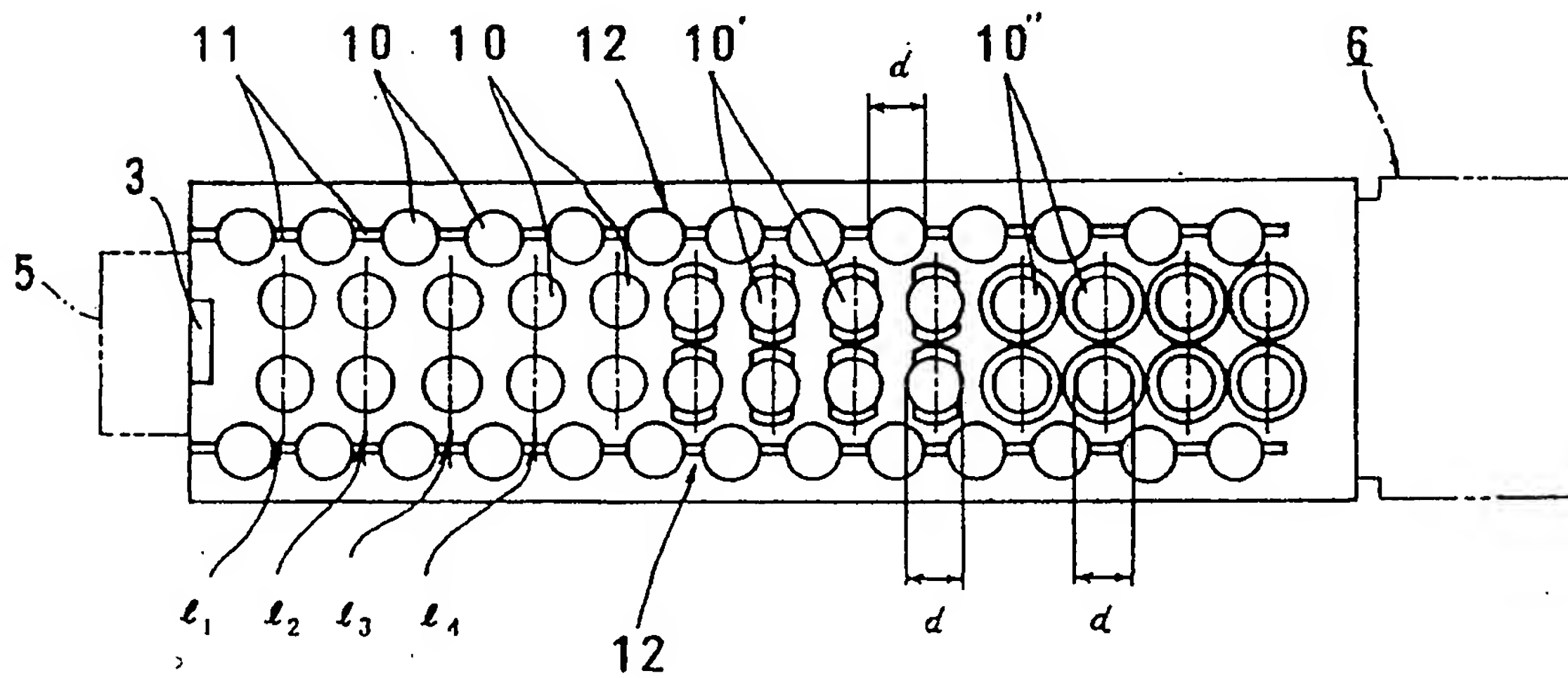


FIG 9



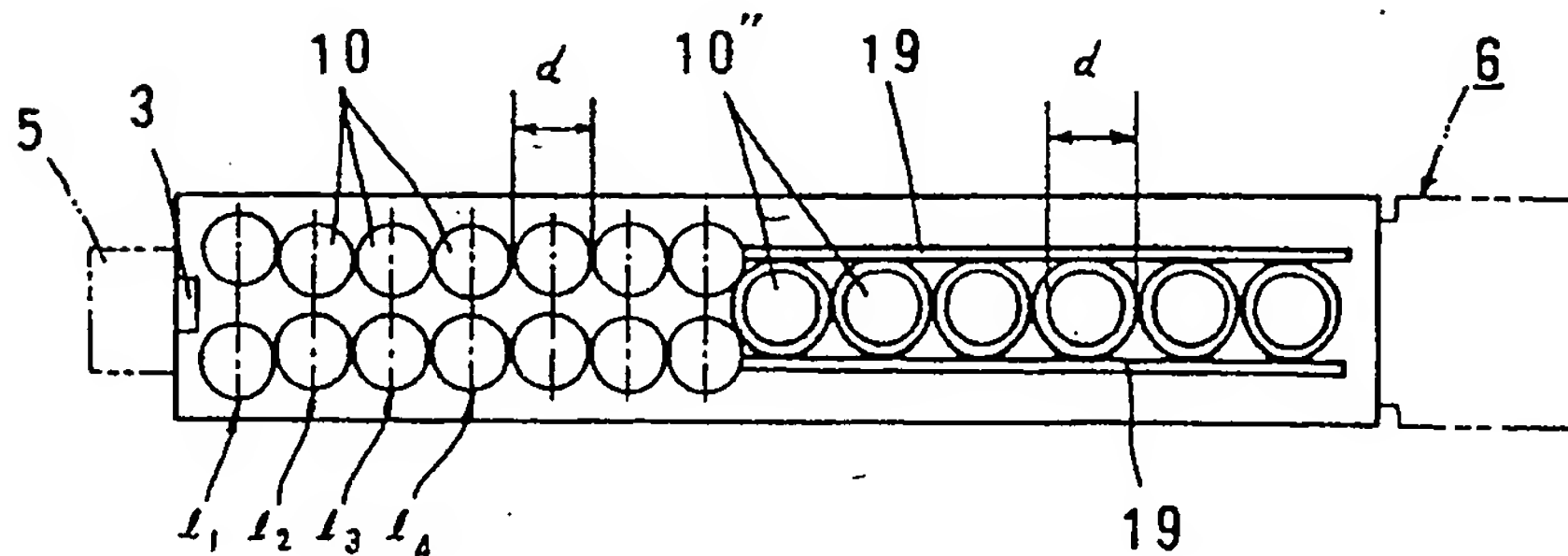




FIG 13

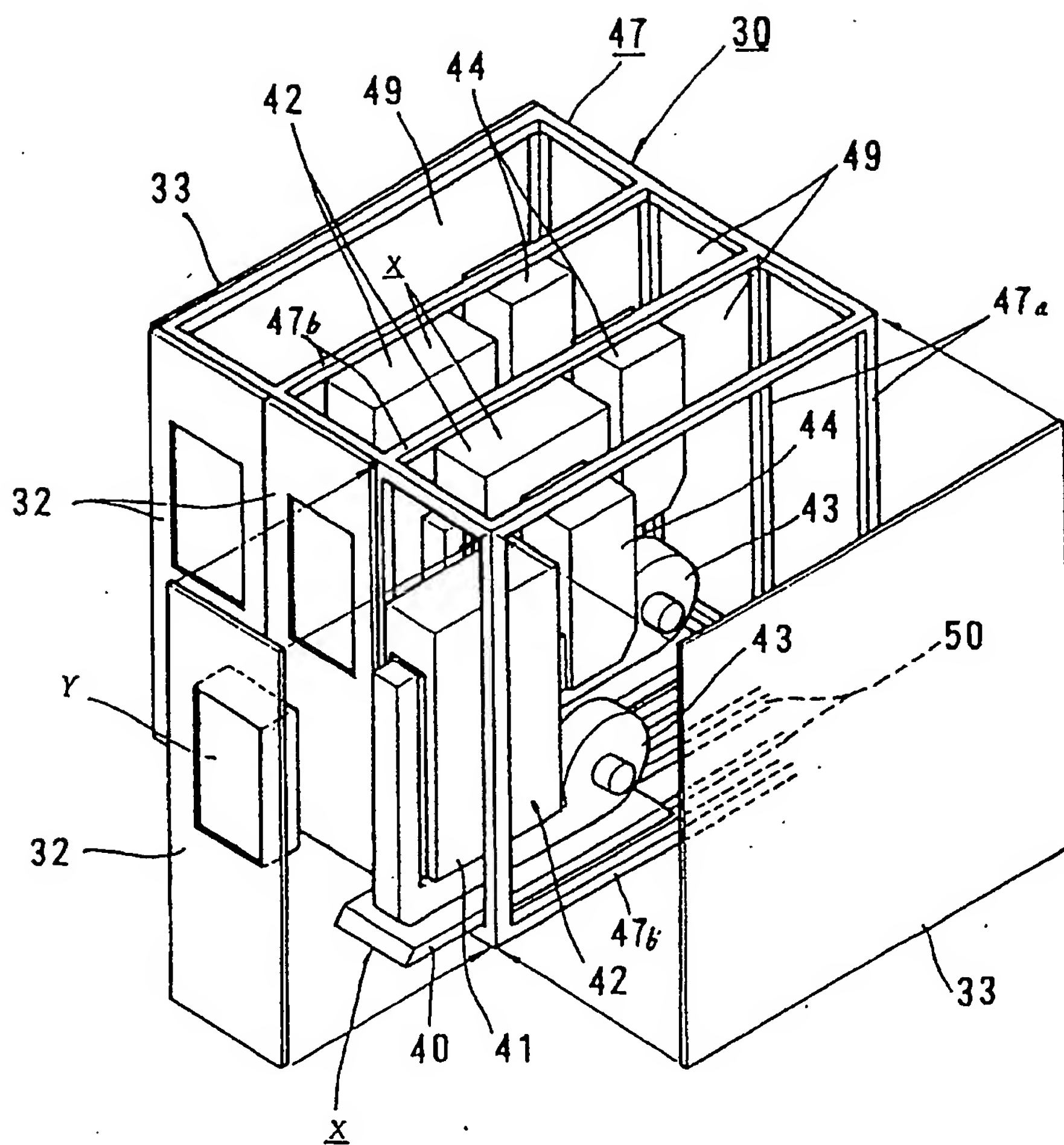
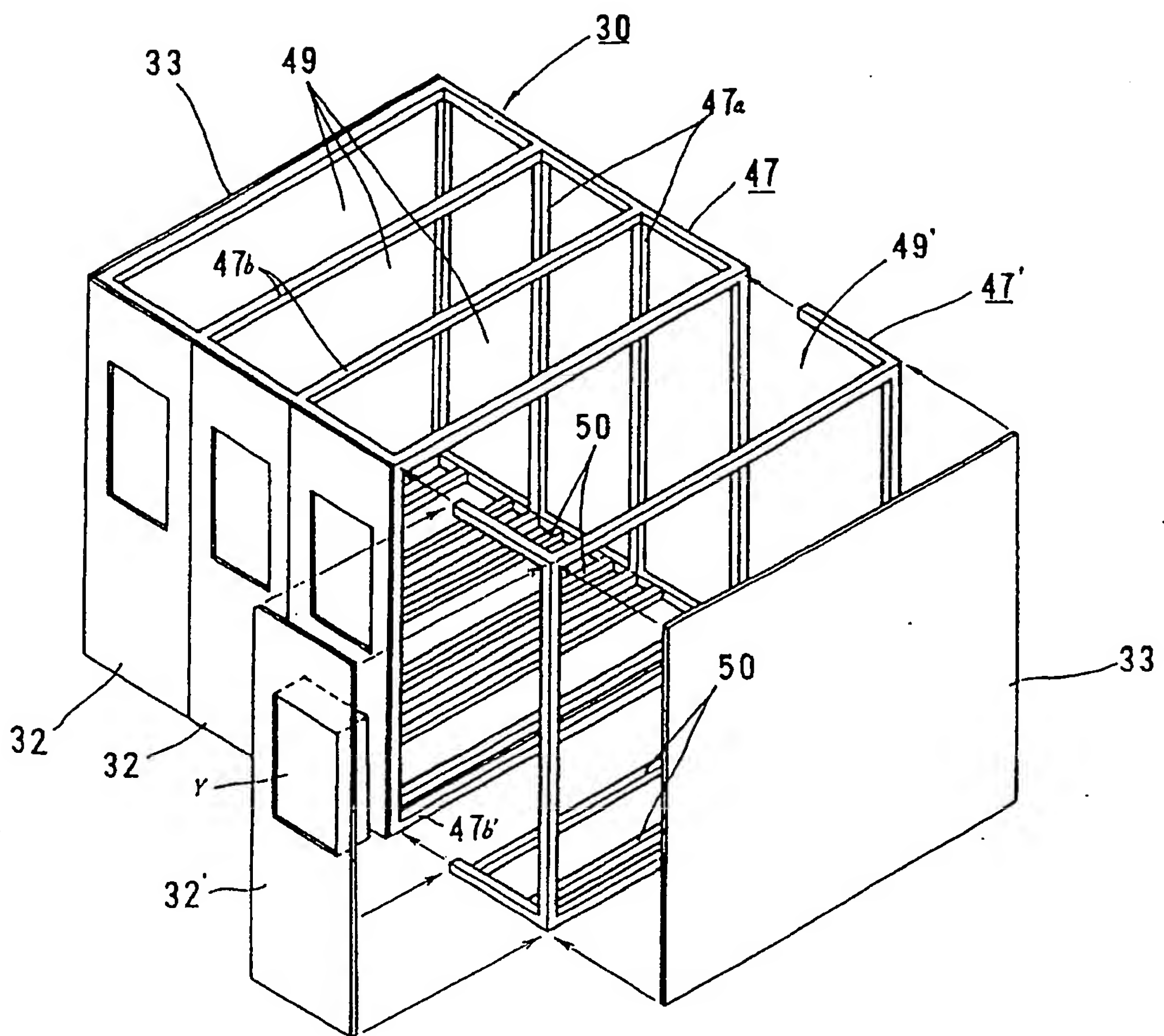


FIG 14



# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No PCT/JP89/01279

<b>I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b> (If several classification symbols apply, indicate all) <sup>4</sup>		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC		
Int. Cl <sup>5</sup> F22B21/04, 31/00, 33/12//13/00		
<b>II. FIELDS SEARCHED</b>		
Minimum Documentation Searched <sup>7</sup>		
Classification System <sup>1</sup>	Classification Symbols	
IPC	F22B13/00, 21/00 - 21/04, 31/00, 33/12, 37/10, F22D1/00 - 1/10	
Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation to the Extent that such Documents are Included in the Fields Searched <sup>4</sup>		
Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1926 - 1990	
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1971 - 1990	
<b>III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT <sup>1</sup></b>		
Category <sup>8</sup>	Citation of Document, <sup>11</sup> with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages <sup>12</sup>	Relevant to Claim No. <sup>13</sup>
Y	JP, U, 56-136902 (Osaka Gas Co., Ltd.), 16 October 1981 (16. 10. 81), (Family: none)	1
Y	JP, U, 56-136904 (Osaka Gas Co., Ltd.), 16 October 1981 (16. 10. 81), (Family: none)	1
A	JP, A, 50-97703 (Komatsugawa Kakoki Kabushiki Kaisha), 4 August 1975 (04. 08. 75), Fig. 3 (Family: none)	1, 2
Y	JP, A, 49-601 (Babcock-Hitachi Kabushiki Kaisha), 7 January 1974 (07. 01. 74), Pages 2 to 3 (Family: none)	3
Y	JP, Y1, 35-11402 (Wakasawa Nobuo), 26 May 1960 (26. 05. 60), (Family: none)	4
<p><sup>10</sup> Special categories of cited documents:</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> <p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</p> <p>"Z" document member of the same patent family</p>		
<b>IV. CERTIFICATION</b>		
Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search	Date of Mailing of this International Search Report	
February 20, 1990 (20. 02. 90)	March 5, 1990 (05. 03. 90)	
International Searching Authority	Signature of Authorized Officer	
Japanese Patent Office		

## FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM THE SECOND SHEET

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Y	JP, U, 61-69601 (Sasakura Engineering Co., Ltd.), 13 May 1986 (13. 05. 86), (Family: none)	5
Y	JP, U, 61-69602 (Sasakura Engineering Co., Ltd.), 13 May 1986 (13. 05. 86), (Family: none)	5

V ☐ OBSERVATIONS WHERE CERTAIN CLAIMS WERE FOUND UNSEARCHABLE <sup>1</sup>

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2) (a) for the following reasons.

1. ☐ Claim numbers , because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely

2. ☐ Claim numbers , because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically.

3. ☐ Claim numbers , because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of PCT Rule 6.4(a).

VI ☐ OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION IS LACKING <sup>2</sup>

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims of the international application.

2. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims of the international application for which fees were paid, specifically claims:

3. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claim numbers:

4. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the International Searching Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

Remark on Protest

☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by applicant's protest.

☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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